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Lovely Strange Dark
lovelystrangedark.wordpress.com
presents U by Kyou Machiko

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LET'S RUN TO THE PARKING LOT
Splash

!!
Cough
Cough
Snap
Clink

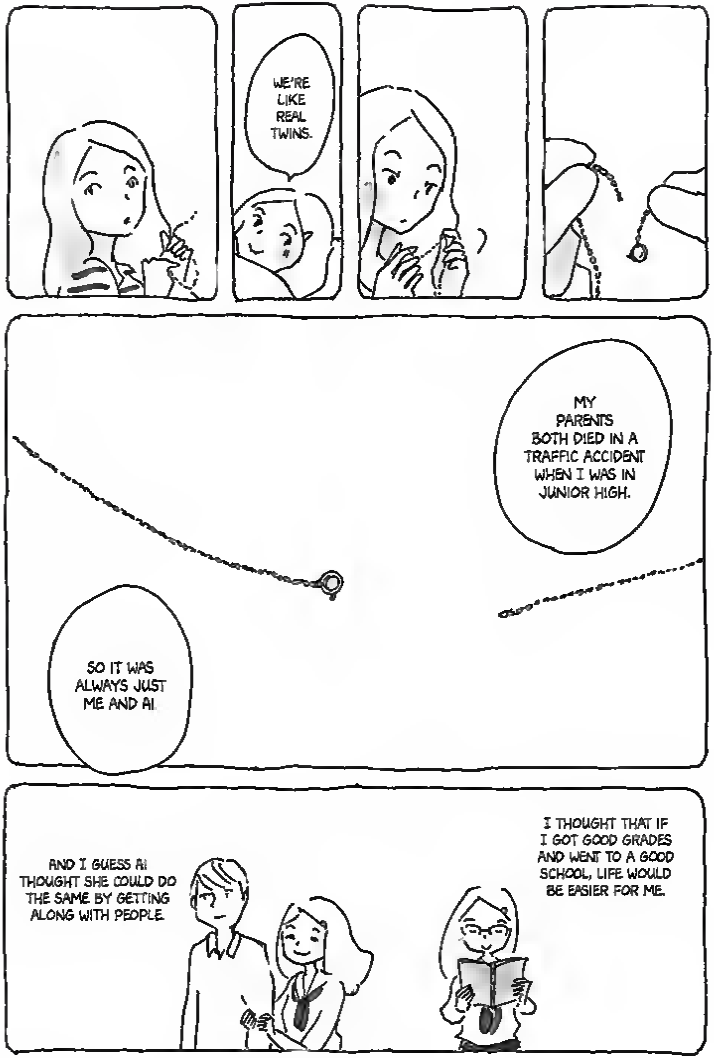
I WANTED TO SCARE YOU.
I GOT THAT NECKLACE FOR YOU.
.....
S-SORRY!
THAT WAS MY FAULT!
I THINK I CAN FIX IT.
UM...
I'M JUST NOT USED TO THIS—
AND IT'S MY FIRST TIME EVER GETTING A PRESENT
FROM A GUY..

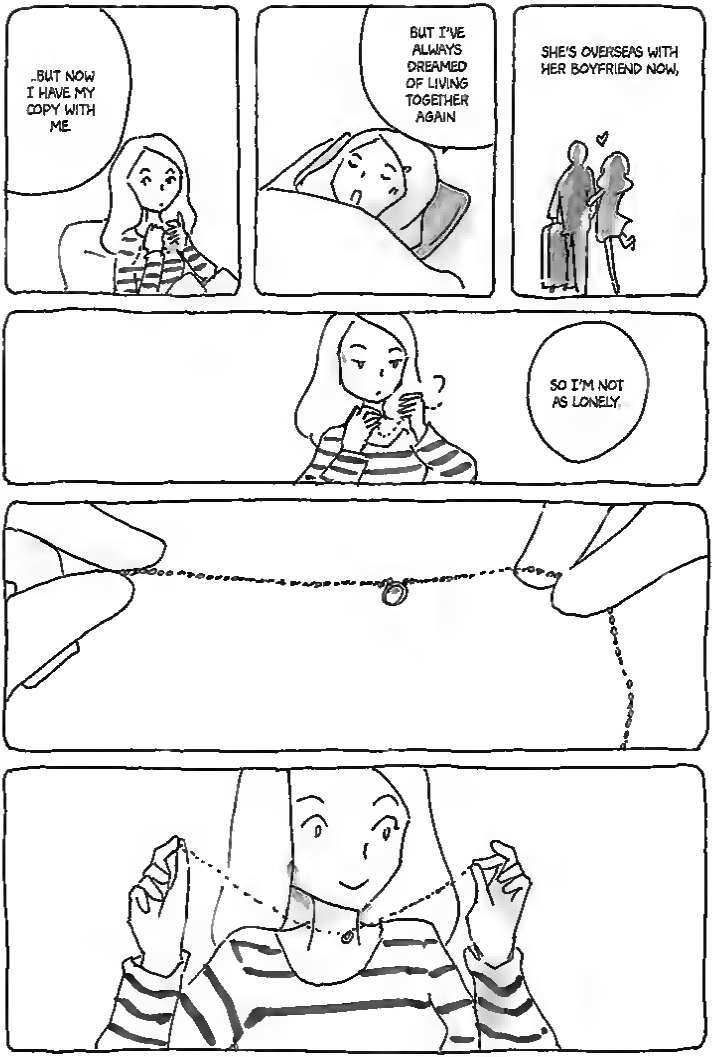
NAGASAWA'S BEEN CALLING IN SICK SINCE MONDAY
HOW USELESS CAN SHE BE?
I HEAR HER FEVER'S UP TO 39 DEGREES.

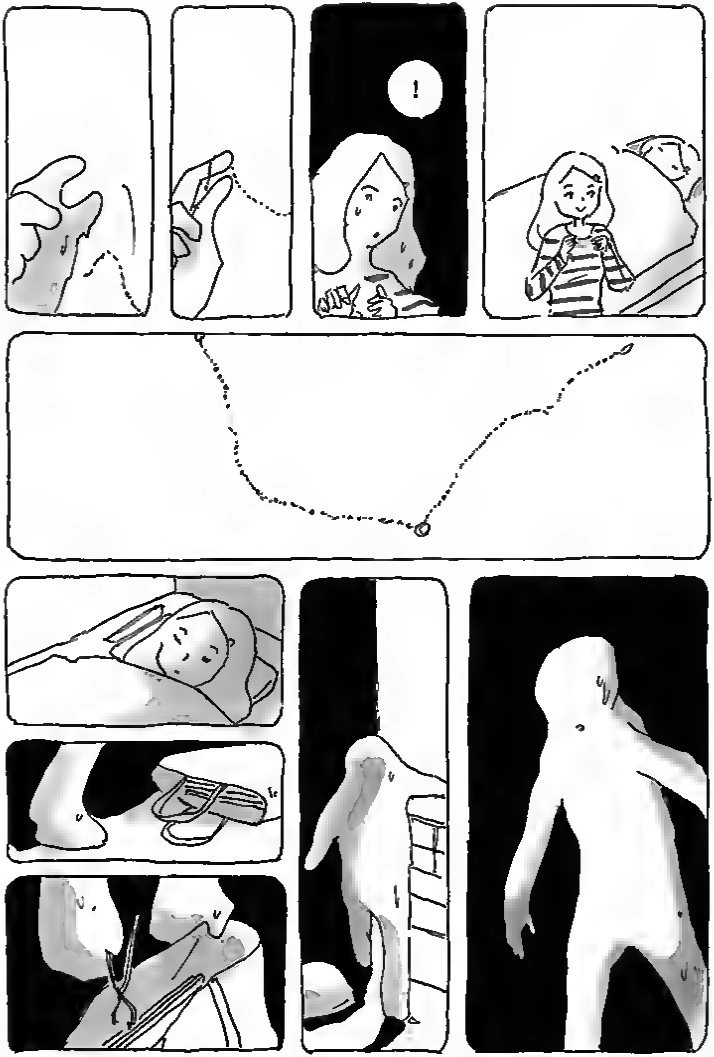
ONCE A COPY EXISTS, THE ORIGINAL HAS NO USE ANYMORE.
Cafeteria
BUT WE'VE BEEN ENHANCED
THEY'RE INFERIOR BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY.
HUMANS REALLY ARE USELESS
ONCE COPIES START BEING COMMERCIAL-IZED AND GO ONTO THE MARKET,
NOT THAT I DISAGREE, THOUGH
THAT'S PRETTY EXTREME.
AH!!
THEY WILL EVENTUALLY SWITCH PLACES WITH HUMANS...
AND IT COMES WITH PUDDING!!
TODAY'S SPECIAL IS THE HAMBURG STEAK COMBO!
THE ORIGINAL HUMAN SHOULD JUST BE THROWN AWAY
IF THE ORIGINAL AND THE COPY LOOK THE SAME, BUT ONE IS DEFECTIVE,

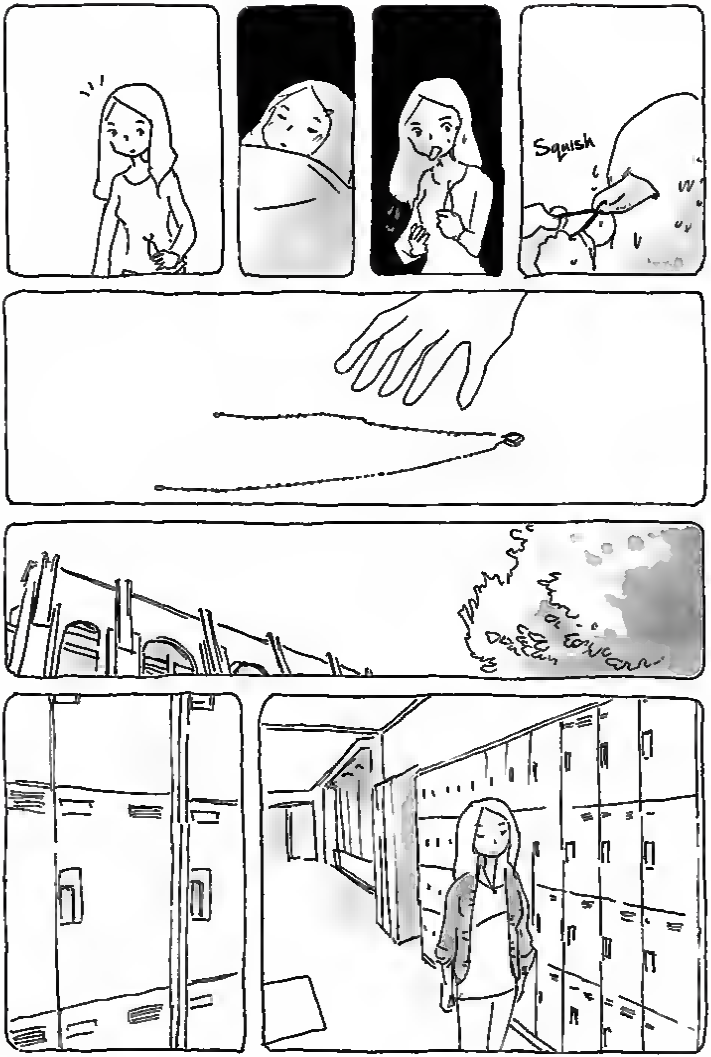
I BOUGHT SOME PUDDING!
Pudd
HAVE SOME IF YOU CAN.
...THANKS
IT'S GREAT ...
THAT'S GOOD

TELL ME IF YOU NEED MORE BLANKETS.
I'M CHANGING THE ICE PILLOW
TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE ONCE YOU'RE DONE EATING
YOU HAVE TO AT LEAST LIE DOWN UNTIL YOUR FEVER GOES DOWN
NO
I ALREADY SLEPT SO MUCH I CAN'T SLEEP ANY MORE.
I'LL SWITCH OUT WITH YOU AND GO TO THE LAB FOR YOU IN THE EVENING.
I'LL FIX IT WHILE YOU SLEEP.
I STILL HAVEN'T FIXED THE NECKLACE.
THE ONE I GOT FROM DR MIZUNO...
AH!
IF YOU HADN'T GOTTEN SO SOAKED YESTERDAY, YOU WOULDN'T
HAVE A FEVER...


WE'RE LIKE REAL TWINS.
MY PARENTS BOTH DIED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WHEN I WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH.
SO IT WAS ALWAYS JUST ME AND AI.
I THOUGHT THAT IF I GOT GOOD GRADES AND WENT TO A GOOD SCHOOL, LIFE WOULD BE EASIER FOR ME.
AND I GUESS AI THOUGHT SHE COULD DO THE SAME BY GETTING ALONG WITH PEOPLE.


..BUT NOW I HAVE MY COPY WITH ME.
BUT I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF LIVING TOGETHER AGAIN
SHE'S OVERSEAS WITH HER BOYFRIEND NOW,
SO I'M NOT AS LONELY.

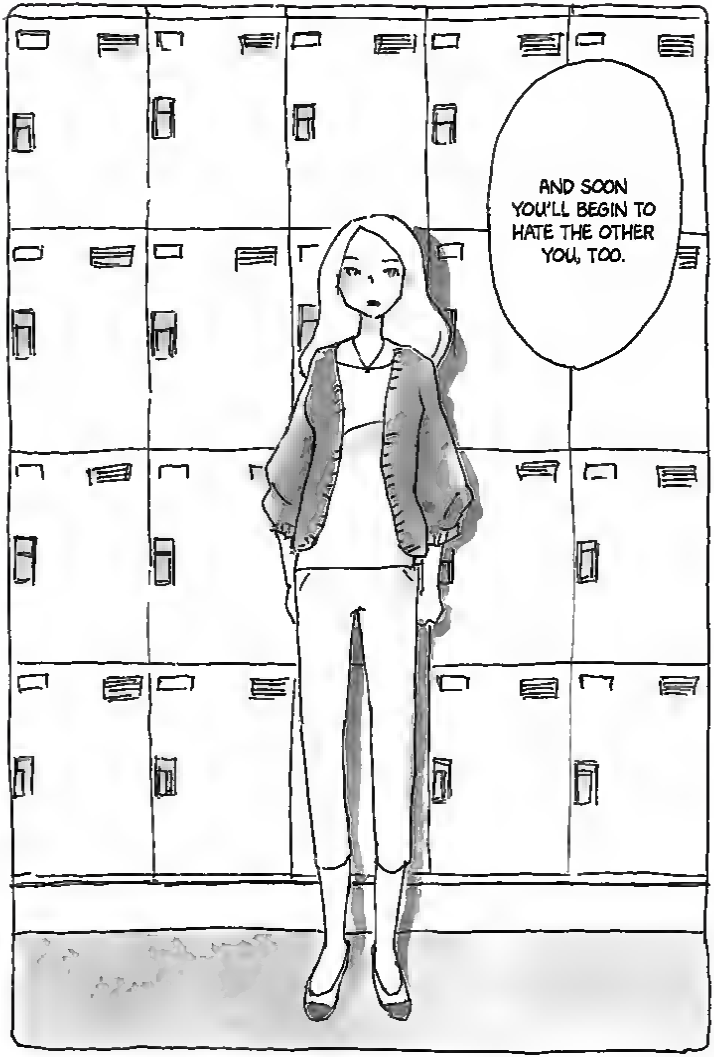



Squish

Clink
OH, IT'S THE COPY
I GUESS YOU'LL BE HERE FOR THE EVENING
DR MIZUNO
...I FIXED IT
MYSELF
I WAS ASKING ABOUT THE NECKLACE.
HOW'S IT GOING?
YUU IS STILL...

"BUT THERE ARE TWO OF YOU."
"THERE'S ONLY ONE NECKLACE."
THE ORIGINAL IS NO LONGER NEEDED
THE COPY HAS SURPASSED THE ORIGINAL.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
"ONE TOO MANY."

NISHI-
MURA...
WITHOUT OUR ORIGINALS
BUT WE CAN'T EXIST
..COPIES AREN'T SHADOWS
THERE CAN'T BE SHADOWS WITHOUT SOMETHING TO CAST THEM.
IN ORDER TO WIDEN THE GAP BETWEEN THE ORIGINAL AND YOURSELF
YOU'RE COPYING YOURSELF OVER AND OVER
THAT'S WHY I EXIST...
IN ORDER TO CREATE "A BETTER SELF"
BUT COPIES EXIST TO ERASE THEIR ORIGINALS


AND SOON YOU'LL BEGIN TO HATE THE OTHER YOU, TOO.